Issue 2/2018

Focus on stamps
The Collector's Magazine

NABA Lugano 2018
+
UCI MTB World Championships 2018 + 50 years Ballenberg + 125 years Stanserhorn Railway + much more

SWISS POST

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Credit card no.

Expiry date (month/year)

Date/Signature:

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Cover image: Fabienne Angehrn, the designer of the NABA Lugano 2018 special stamp, in her studio in Lucerne.
Photo: Thomas Rathgeb

Dear Reader
The latest issue of Focus on stamps invites you on a journey to well-known places in Switzerland that are each celebrating a special occasion this year. The Ballenberg Open-Air Museum has been presenting the different facets of rural culture since 1978, recreating farming life and handicrafts of years gone by in over 100 buildings which are faithful reconstructions of the originals. We pay tribute to the achievements of the Ballenberg Open-Air Museum Foundation, which was established 50 years ago, with four stamps showing farmhouses from all parts of Switzerland. The Stanserhorn Railway has now been providing its passengers with extraordinary mountain experiences for 125 years, whether in the convertible-style CabriO cable car, on a trip on the nostalgic funicular railway or during a romantic candlelit dinner. We are marking the anniversary with a stamp and a postal card, and what's more, we are also commemorating the birthday of the Stockhorn Railway with a postal card. Other stamp motifs in this issue showcase the largest mountain bike festival in the Swiss Alps and the traditional sport of Hornussen. One of the undisputed highlights in the philatelic calendar is the national stamp exhibition, which will be held in Lugano in May. This year, the Pro Patria stamp with a surcharge is once again dedicated to castles and fortresses, taking us on journeys to Hagenwil Water Castle in the Canton of Thurgau and to Romont Castle. Finally, we honour the invaluable work of the Swiss Pharmacists' Association, which is celebrating 175 years of history.
We are taking part in the PostEurop competition with the motif of the Trift Bridge in the Bernese Oberland, one of the most spectacular pedestrian-only suspension bridges in the Alps – join in and cast your vote! Further details on this can be found on pages 18 and 19.

Have we piqued your curiosity?
Then join us on our journey and discover lots more fascinating facts while browsing through our latest issue.

Claudia Frankl
Head of Stamps & Philately

Issuing programme

Issue date: 6 September 2018 / Featured in: Focus on stamps 3/2018

No.	Value	Description
2	**2.00**	**Special stamps** **Fairy tales**
	1.00	Value 1
	1.00	Value 2
1	**1.00**	**Miniature sheet** **Typical Swiss countryside**
		Alpstein
4	**0.95**	**Definitive stamps** **Swiss railway stations**
	0.10	Zweisimmen
	0.15	Huttwil
	0.20	Alp Grüm
	0.50	Fleurier NE
4	**3.70**	**Special stamps** **Special events**
	0.85	Clover
	0.85	Bird
	1.00	Ladybird
	1.00	Fern

No.	Value	Description
4	**4.00**	**Special stamps** **Swiss Jass**
	1.00	King of acorns
	1.00	Jack of bells
	1.00	King of clubs
	1.00	Queen of hearts
1	**2.00**	**Postal card**
		Pro Grigioni Italiano

Subject to change.
Status as at: March 2018

Publication details 2/2018

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Event calendar

Month	Key	Date	Location	Event
May	**I**	**17.5**		**Issue date**
	TF/E	3–5.5	Essen	28th International Stamp Fair
	SS+	17–20.5	Lugano	NABA Lugano 2018
July	F	27.7		Focus on stamps 3/2018 – the stamp magazine
September	**I**	**6.9**		**Issue date**
October	F	5.10		Focus on stamps 4/2018 – the stamp magazine
	TF/E	25–27.10	Sindelfingen	International Stamp Show
November	TF/E	8–11.11	Paris	72nd Salon Philatélique d'Automne
	I	**15.11**		**Issue date**
	TF/E	23–25.11	Verona	Veronafil 2018
	SS+	23–25.11	Allschwil	Stamp Day 2018
December	SS+	2.12	Wienacht-Tobel	Christmas market
	SS+	11–14.12	Berne-Bethlehem	Christmas branch

Subject to updates and changes.
The latest version can always be found at swisspost.ch/stamps.

Key

I	Issue date for stamps/postal stationery
F	Focus on stamps (stamp magazine)
TF/E	Trade fair/exhibition
SS+	Sales stand with cancellation service

EXTREM – 175 Jahre Schweizer Briefmarken
EXTRÊME – 175 ans des timbres suisses
2. März bis 8. Juli 2018
Du 2 mars au 8 juillet 2018

Kanton Zürich
die «Zürich 4» und
die «Zürich 6»
Canton de Zurich
le «Zürich 4» et le «Zürich 6»
Von Wädenswil nach Richterswil am 2. März 1843, der früheste bekannte Brief der Schweiz mit einer Briefmarke
De Wädenswil à Richterswil le 2 mars 1843, la lettre la plus ancienne connue de Suisse avec un timbre-poste
22
23

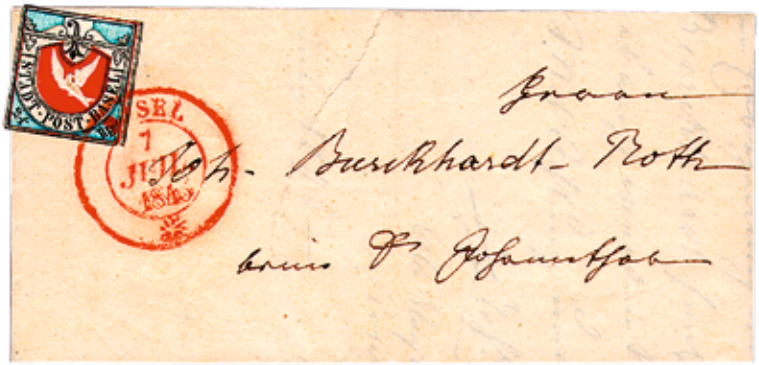
The exhibition catalogue

"EXTREME – 175 years of Swiss postage stamp production"

Switzerland's most famous and expensive stamps assembled in a collection for the first time. The catalogue contains fascinating articles about the design and production of stamps, such as "Stamps make Switzerland – before Panini football stickers existed" by Tobias Kaestli, a historian from Magglingen, or "From the concept to the finished stamp – the purpose of these little pieces of paper". It also provides comprehensive details and interesting background information about the exhibition. With images of all items in the "treasure trove". All text is written in German, and most is also available in French. Format 17 × 23.5 cm; approx. 100 pages, four colours throughout.

The catalogue is available from:
IG Briefmarke, P.O. Box 177,
5707 Seengen
E-mail: ig-briefmarke@schwarzpr.ch
The invoice is enclosed with shipping. CHF 15 incl. shipping costs.

This letter was sent from Geneva to the rural municipality of Carouge on 1 April 1844. The stamp was sold for 8 centimes instead of 10 – an extra incentive for Swiss Post customers to familiarize themselves with the postage stamp system. The type shown here, with two left-hand sections which are stuck to the letter inversely, is extremely rare. (Privately owned.)

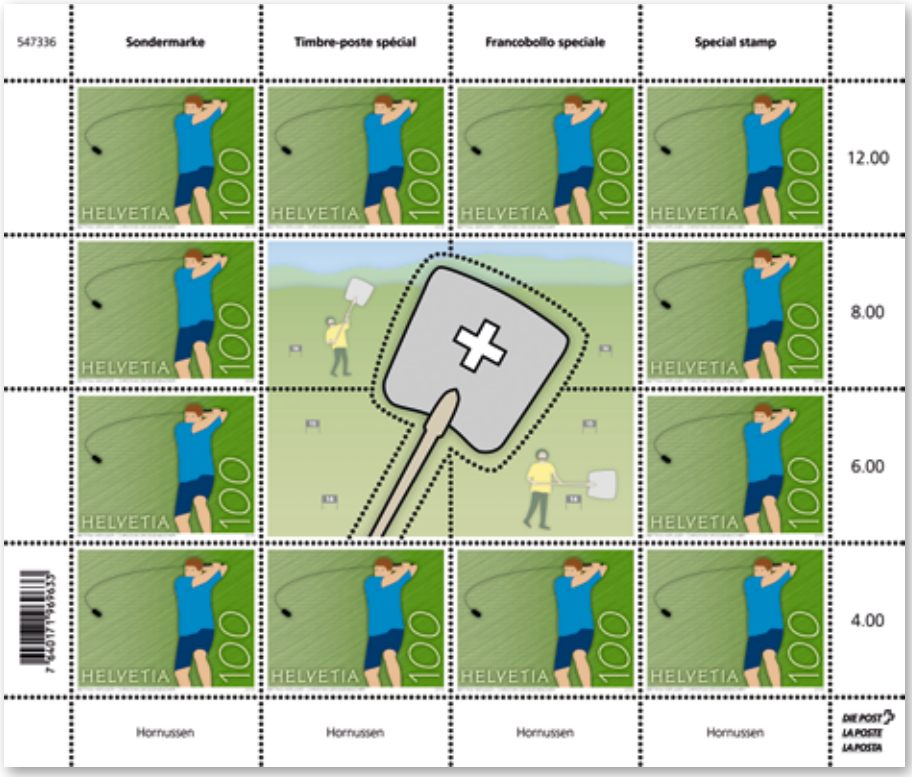


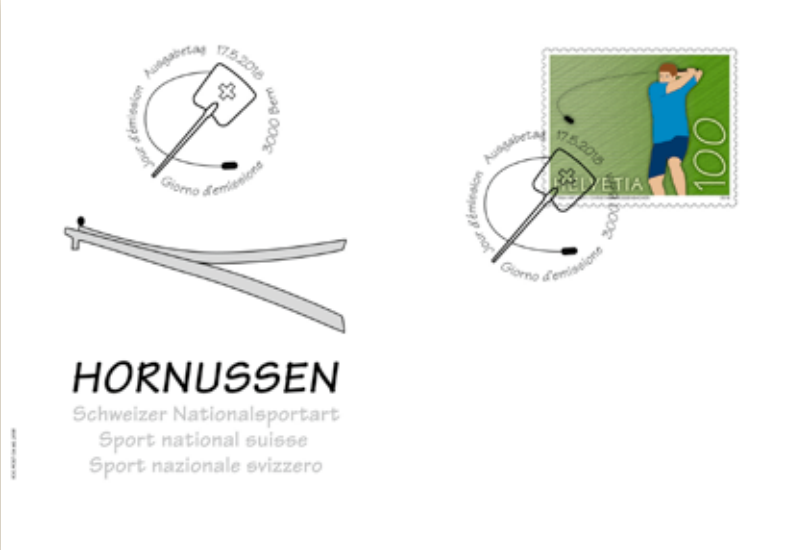
A letter with a "Basel Dove", which was posted at the post office counter a week after the official issue date, was discovered in the governor's files in the Basel cantonal archive. It can be said that this is a first-day cover of the Basel city stamp.
(On permanent loan from the Basel-Stadt cantonal archive.)

Hornussen

Hornussen is one of the most typically Swiss of all sports, and yet many Swiss citizens know very little about it. What is the name of the peculiar "puck"? And what do you call the wooden paddles used to catch it in the air?

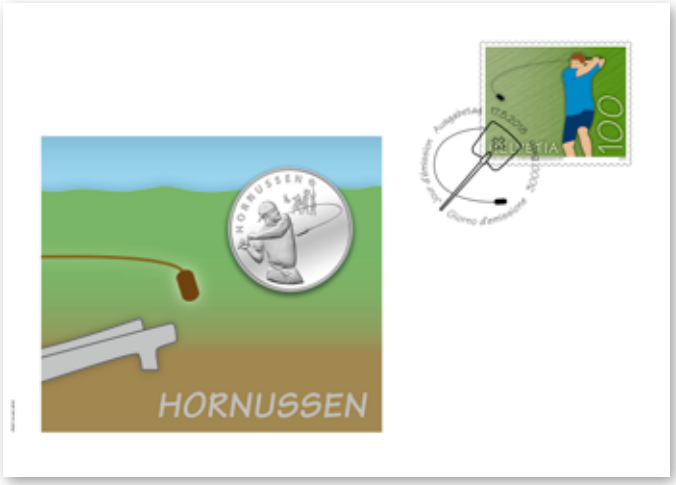
The puck is called the "Nouss" or "Hornuss", and everything in this sport revolves around this flying object. It is hit from the "tee" with a "bat" and sent as far as possible into the playing field, known as the "Ries", at an initial speed of up to 300 kilometres an hour. Here the opposing team – made up of between 16 and 19 players depending on the league – attempts to intercept the puck's flight as soon as possible and knock it down with wooden paddles (known as "Schindeln") weighing 4 kilograms. This is what decides the match – the more pucks that are stopped, the better. Conversely, the batting team scores points if the puck travels a long way. These are the rules in a nutshell.
The term "Hornussen" comes from the verb "hornen" or "hurnen" and refers to the sound the puck makes when it flies around the field. The first known Hornuss match was held in Trub in 1655.
Following on from Swiss wrestling (see Focus on stamps 2/2016), Swiss Post is dedicating a special stamp to another national sport.





Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 9.5.2018 to 30.6.2019 Branches: from 17.5.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 17.5.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 40×32.5 mm Sheet: 189×161 mm (4 rows [2×4 and 2×2 stamps] and vignette 80×65 mm)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	14¼:14
Design	Bettina Häfliger, Spiegel Christian Grossenbacher, Seedorf



The coin with a nominal value of CHF 20.00 dated 7 May 2015 is made of silver and measures 33 mm in diameter. It was designed by Roland Hirter. Envelope format: B6 (176×125 mm).

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Single stamp	A210 150	A210 550	1.00
Sheet of 12 stamps	A210 111	A210 511	12.00
No block of four available: subscribers will instead receive the item A210 150 (mint) and/or A210 550 (cancelled)			
Covers			
Single stamp on first-day cover C6		A210 580	1.90
Unstamped cover C6	A210 700		0.90
No block of four on first-day cover C6 available: subscribers will instead receive the item A210 580 (cancelled)			
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A210 640	A210 650	1.80
Philatelic numismatic cover			
Philatelic numismatic cover, format B6 (176×125 mm), comes with the "Hornussen" special stamp at CHF 1.00 dated 17.5.2018, cancelled with the first-day cancellation and supplied with a "Hornussen 2015" commemorative coin with a legal nominal value of CHF 20.00. This product is not delivered as part of a standing order.		A210 210	41.90

UCI MTB World Championships 2018

Does the expression "UCI MTB" mean nothing to you? Don't worry, you're not alone. The abbreviations refer to both a traditional association and a sport that is very much in vogue. The answer to the puzzle: Swiss Post's special stamp is dedicated to the Mountain Bike World Championships 2018, which will be held in Lenzerheide.

UCI stands for the "Union Cycliste Internationale" – the international cycling association. The Mountain Bike World Championships in summer 2018, organized by the UCI, are the highlight of the Swiss biking calendar.
The best mountain bikers will compete for the world title from 5 to 9 September in Lenzerheide. Around 30,000 spectators will line the routes, creating a fantastic atmosphere and no end of moments that will send shivers down your spine. In addition to the daily races, events and parties promise a unique mountain bike festival.
Both team and individual competitions are being held in the disciplines of cross-country (an Olympic sport since 1996) and downhill. The latter is comparable with downhill skiing.
In Nino Schurter and Jolanda Neff, Switzerland has top-class athletes in cross-country, but it also has hopes of winning medals in the downhill competitions.

Racing programme for the UCI Mountain Bike World Championships, Lenzerheide

Wednesday, 5 September 2018
5.30 p.m. Cross-country team relay

Thursday, 6 September 2018
2 p.m. Junior women's cross-country
4.30 p.m. Junior men's cross-country

Friday, 7 September 2018
10.15 a.m. Junior downhill qualifiers
11.30 a.m. Elite downhill qualifiers
2.30 p.m. Women's U-23 cross-country
4.30 p.m. Men's U-23 cross-country

Saturday, 8 September 2018
12.30 p.m. Elite women's cross-country
3.30 p.m. Elite men's cross-country

Sunday, 9 September 2018
9.30 a.m. Junior women's downhill
10.15 a.m. Junior men's downhill
1 p.m. Elite women's downhill
2.30 p.m. Elite men's downhill

The tickets for the Mountain Bike World Championships in Lenzerheide are available online for pre-sale booking. You receive a 20 percent pre-sale discount up to 30 June 2018. **lenzerheide2018.com**

Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 9.5.2018 to 30.6.2019 Branches: from 17.5.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 17.5.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Bagel Security Print, Düsseldorf, Germany
Sizes	Stamps: 33×28 mm Sheet: 195×142 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¼:13½
Design	Moritz Adler and Mathias Zimmermann, Berne

Mountain biker Nino Schurter from Graubünden defends his cross-country world title in Lenzerheide. Photo: Sven Martin

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

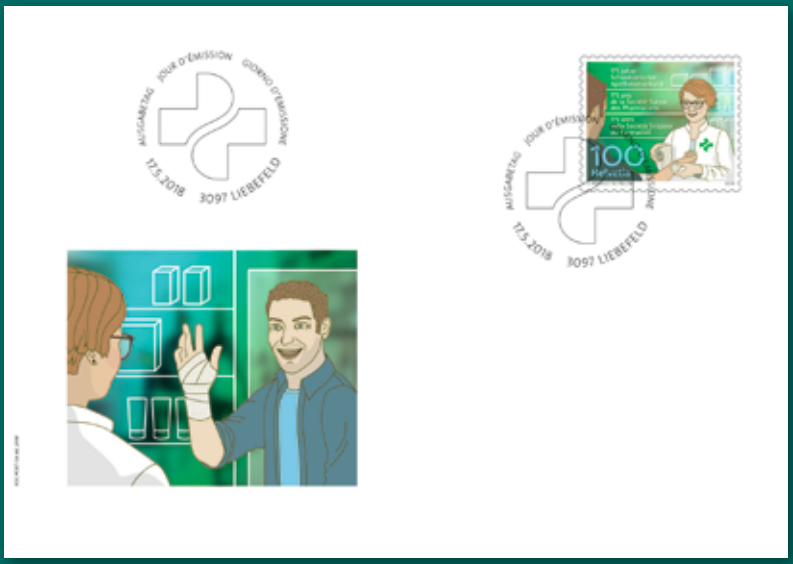
Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Single stamp	A209 150	A209 550	1.00
Block of four	A209 160	A209 560	4.00
Sheet of 20 stamps	A209 111	A209 511	20.00
Covers			
Single stamp on first-day cover C6		A209 580	1.90
Block of four on first-day cover C6		A209 630	4.90
Unstamped cover C6	A209 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A209 640	A209 650	1.80

Special stamp

175 years Swiss Pharmacists' Association

pharmaSuisse, the Swiss Pharmacists' Association, is the umbrella organization for pharmacists. Its aim is to ensure optimal provision of medicine and pharmaceutical services for the public. Today, the association founded in 1843 has around 6,100 individual members and over 1,500 affiliated pharmacies.

Regardless of when and where someone encounters a health problem in Switzerland, the nearest pharmacy is never far away. Thanks to their university degrees and continued training, pharmacists are not just specialists in medicine but also qualified health experts. With their expert advice, they make a major contribution to basic healthcare provision and to the prevention of health problems. The more limited resources become, the stronger their position in basic provision will become. The trade association pharmaSuisse aims to create added value for Swiss pharmacies, the healthcare sector and the Swiss public. Pharmacists' knowledge, their expertise in advising patients and not least their neutrality enable them to guarantee the quality and safety of medicines. They also actively contribute to savings in the healthcare system.
The special stamp marking the 175th anniversary of the Swiss Pharmacists' Association shows a pharmacist dealing with a customer face-to-face.



Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 9.5.2018 to 30.6.2019 Branches: from 17.5.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 17.5.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Bagel Security Print, Düsseldorf, Germany
Sizes	Stamps: 33×28 mm Sheet: 195×142 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¼:13½
Design	Julia Reichle and Martina Pelosi, Lucerne

The pharmacy is the first point of contact for all health issues. Photo: pharmaSuisse

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Single stamp	A204 150	A204 550	1.00
Block of four	A204 160	A204 560	4.00
Sheet of 20 stamps	A204 111	A204 511	20.00
Covers			
Single stamp on first-day cover C6		A204 580	1.90
Block of four on first-day cover C6		A204 630	4.90
Unstamped cover C6	A204 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A204 640	A204 650	1.80

1,800
public pharmacies serve Switzerland.

21,000
employees work in Swiss pharmacies.

332,000
people visit a pharmacy every day.

Special stamp with surcharge

NABA Lugano 2018

It is widely known that the NABA national stamp exhibition takes place only every six years. The time has now come again: from 17 to 20 May 2018, the Centro Esposizioni in Lugano will be the focal point of the Swiss philately scene.

After the last two exhibitions held in Stans in 2012 and Baden (Canton of Aargau) in 2006, the biggest and most important event in the calendar for stamp collectors and philatelists will be held in Ticino this time around. The top-class exhibition is expected to attract around 200 exhibitors who will present their collections to a jury of experts as per the competition rules. The event is a springboard for international competitions.
Despite the red and blue colours of the Ticino coat of arms in the NABA Lugano 2018 logo, the organizational committee is keen to stress that the event is aimed at stamp enthusiasts throughout Switzerland. This is also reflected by the fact that the exhibition catalogue is published in all four national languages. It also aims to appeal to young philatelists and will have a special corner where children and young people can present their exhibits alongside adults to a wider audience.
Just like the logo, the motif of the special stamp is also dominated by the cantonal colours of Ticino. It features a person studying stamp motifs, as well as San Salvatore, the mountain above Lugano, and the iron gates in Parco Ciani, which provide a reminder of bygone times.
The special stamp has a face value of CHF 1 and a surcharge of 50 centimes. The funds go to the Foundation for the Promotion of Philately and will help finance the exhibition.

CHF 25.00
Print run: 2,000 copies

**Limited special cover!
Exclusively available at the sales stand during NABA!**

Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 9.5.2018 to 30.6.2019 Branches: from 17.5.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 17.5.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein
Sizes	Stamps: 40×32.5 mm Sheet: 190×160 mm (4 rows of 4 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¼:13½
Design	Fabienne Angehrn, Lucerne

Fabienne Angehrn selecting the gold leaf for the special cover. Photo: Thomas Rathgeb

NABA Lugano 2018

Date: 17 to 20 May 2018
Exhibition opening times, exchange and sales stand with cancellation service:
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Venue: Centro Esposizioni Lugano, entrance via Campo Marzio, 6900 Lugano
Autograph session: Fabienne Angehrn, the designer of the special stamp, will be signing autographs from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday.
WebStamp will also be showcased at the Swiss Post stand. Visit our stand and take your own stamp home with you!
Further information about NABA 2018 in Lugano can be found at **luganophila.ch.**

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Single stamp	A211 150	A211 550	1.50
Block of four	A211 160	A211 560	6.00
Sheet of 16 stamps	A211 111	A211 511	24.00
Covers			
Single stamp on first-day cover C6		A211 580	2.40
Block of four on first-day cover C6		A211 630	6.90
Unstamped cover C6	A211 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A211 640	A211 650	2.30

50 years Ballenberg

Historic buildings from all parts of Switzerland are the main attractions at the Ballenberg Open-Air Museum, which opened in 1978. Small buildings, splendid farmhouses, objects and tools from the past can be found at the 660,000 m² site. The oldest building dates from 1336.

The museum attracts over 200,000 visitors from all over the world each year. To mark the 50th anniversary of the foundation that runs the museum, four special stamps featuring buildings from the four regions of Switzerland are being issued. They are the result of a competition in which one designer from each of the four regions was invited to take part. The buildings on the special stamps and over 100 other buildings, as well as their histories and related handicrafts, can be explored at Ballenberg.

Discount on admission to the Ballenberg Open-Air Museum
This voucher provides you with a 25 percent discount on the normal price of one-day admission to the Ballenberg Open-Air Museum. The voucher is valid for a maximum of two people until 31 October 2018. It cannot be used cumulatively.

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A207 150	A207 550	3.70
Set of blocks of four	A207 160	A207 560	14.80
Sheet with 20 stamps			
0.85 Rüschlikon	A207 111	A207 511	17.00
0.85 Vals	A207 112	A207 512	17.00
1.00 Cugnasco	A207 113	A207 513	20.00
1.00 Lancy	A207 114	A207 514	20.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A207 580	4.60
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (4 covers)		A207 600	7.30
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (4 covers)		A207 630	18.40
Unstamped cover C6	A207 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A207 640	A207 650	4.50
Combi-folder			
The multilingual combi-folder (de/fr/it/rm/en) contains the four "50 years Ballenberg" special stamps dated 17.5.2018 and the "Ballenberg Open-Air Museum" special stamp at CHF 0.20 dated 9.3.1981, cancelled with the relevant first-day cancellation or allocated cancellation mark. This product is not delivered as part of a standing order.		A207 900	9.50

Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 9.5.2018 to 30.6.2019 Branches: from 17.5.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 17.5.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France
Sizes	Stamps: 33×28 mm Sheet: 194×140 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¼:13½
Design	Pierre-Abraham Rochat, Lausanne

Public Laundry,
Rüschlikon ZH, 1750–1800
The elegant half-timbered building has been converted several times during its life. Around 1900, one of its purposes was as a washhouse.

Hay Barn,
Vals GR, around 1780
The remarkable aspect of this hay barn from the hamlet of Camp near Vals is the enormous size of the corner pillars.

Dwellings,
Cugnasco TI, around 1740/1770/1860
A typical feature of houses in Sopraceneri is the lack of a living room. People spent most of their time in the kitchen.

Farmhouse with pigeonry,
Lancy GE, 1762/1796/1820
The building, which has been extended several times, was given a pigeon loft in 1796 – to widen the menu.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Combi-folder

Spreuer Bridge, Lucerne

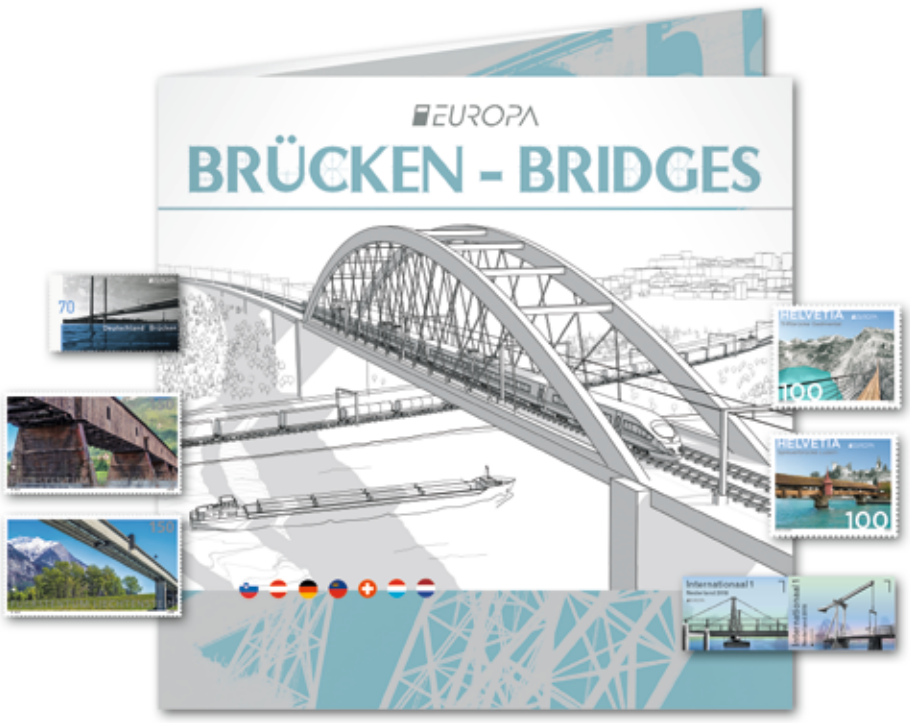
Trift Bridge, Gadmental

Your vote counts!

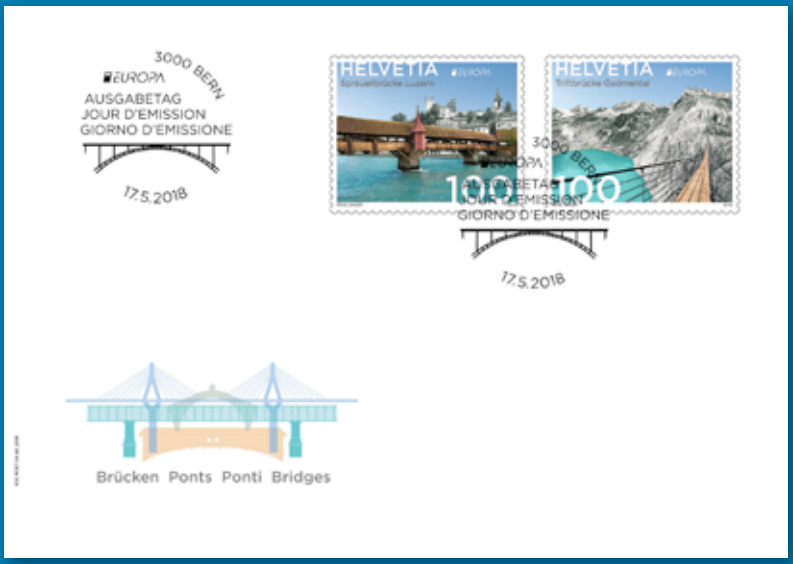
EUROPA – Bridges

EUROPA stamps have been produced since 1956. They represent cooperation in the postal sector, particularly in relation to promoting philately. They also help to raise public awareness of Europe's shared roots, culture and history.

PostEurop, the Association of European Public Postal Operators, has run a competition to find the best EUROPA stamp design every year since 2002. Each time, over 11,000 votes are cast in the competition, which has been held online for several years.
This year's theme of bridges is well suited to Switzerland: there are around 3,000 bridges in the national road network alone, with over 8,200 bridges in the rail network adding to the total. Whereas bridges made of wood and later iron were predominant in the past, most modern bridges are constructed of concrete.
The two Swiss EUROPA stamps combine old and new. Firstly, the Spreuer Bridge, built in Lucerne in the 13th century, is the oldest surviving wooden bridge in Europe following the Chapel Bridge fire.
Secondly, the Trift Bridge is one of the longest and highest pedestrian-only suspension bridges in the Alps. At 100 metres high and 170 metres long, it is recommended only for those with a head for heights!



Joint product
You can look forward to a product created through multilateral cooperation between Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Slovenia, the Netherlands and Switzerland. The joint product will be featured and available in Focus on stamps 3/2018 on 27 July 2018. (Sample image.)



Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 9.5.2018 to 30.6.2019 Branches: from 17.5.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 17.5.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Liechtenstein
Sizes	Stamps: 40×32.5 mm Sheet: 190×160 mm (4 rows of 4 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13½:13¼
Design	René Sager, Lucerne

Your vote counts!
Take part in PostEurop's online competition from 9 May 2018 and choose the best EUROPA stamp 2018. Each country may enter only one motif. Switzerland's entry is the "Trift Bridge" special stamp.
posteurop.org/europa2018

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A206 150	A206 550	2.00
Set of blocks of four	A206 160	A206 560	8.00
Sheet with 16 stamps			
1.00 Spreuer Bridge, Lucerne	A206 111	A206 511	16.00
1.00 Trift Bridge, Gadmental	A206 112	A206 512	16.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A206 580	2.90
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A206 600	3.80
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A206 630	9.80
Unstamped cover C6	A206 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A206 640	A206 650	2.80

125 years Stanserhorn Railway

Constructed by mountain railway pioneers, the electric-powered funicular railway to the Stanserhorn was opened in 1893. The train continues to run on the original first section today. This and its long history were reason enough for a special stamp to mark its 125th anniversary.

125 years ago, it was possible to reach the 1,850-metre-high Stanserhorn starting from Stans, in a journey with a maximum gradient of 63 percent in three sections and a time of more than 45 minutes. The railway's clasp brakes were the first of their kind in the world. They ensure that the carriage automatically clamps to the track if the cable snaps. This revolutionary system is still in operation today and has since been copied many times.
The second and third sections were replaced by a cable car in 1975, which was in turn superseded by the CabriO cable car in 2012 – another world premiere. This unique combination of nostalgia and 21st-century technology is also found on the sheetlet designed by Diego Balli. The Stans-based designer took inspiration from vintage Swiss tourism posters with their bright, fresh colours. The combination of graphic and scenic creation presents a view that does not exist in reality but which reflects impressions of a journey to the Stanserhorn in compressed format.

Take part in the competition at postshop.ch/focus-on-stamps-online now and win tickets for the Stanserhorn Railway!

Single stamp on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 9.5.2018 to 30.6.2019 Branches: from 17.5.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 17.5.2018
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 33×28 mm Sheetlet: 192×115 mm (3 rows of 3/4/3 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¾:14¼
Design	Diego Balli, Stans

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Single stamp	A205 150	A205 550	1.00
Block of four	A205 160	A205 560	4.00
Sheetlet of 10 stamps	A205 311	A205 351	10.00
Covers			
Single stamp on first-day cover C6		A205 580	1.90
Block of four on first-day cover C6		A205 630	4.90
Sheetlet on first-day cover C5		A205 590	11.20
Unstamped covers/sheetlets C6 (162×114 mm) C5 (229×162 mm)	 A205 700 A205 701		 0.90 1.20
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A205 640	A205 650	1.80
Postal stationery			
Postal card "125 years Stanserhorn Railway", face value CHF 1.00 + 1.00 for the card	A205 841	A205 846	2.00

125 Jahre Stanserhorn-Bahn
125 ans du funiculaire du Stanserhorn
125 anni della funicolare dello Stanserhorn
125 years Stanserhorn Railway
Helvetia 100
DIE POST LA POSTE LA POSTA

Postal card

Hagenwil Water Castle

Romont Castle

Pro Patria – Fortresses and castles of Switzerland

The "Fortresses and castles of Switzerland" series was launched in 2016 with Zug Castle and Neu-Bechburg Castle and continued in 2017 with Castello Visconteo and Oberhofen Castle. The last two motifs in this series are now being issued in 2018.

1. Hagenwil Water Castle
Hagenwil Water Castle is located near Amriswil in the Canton of Thurgau. It was first mentioned in 1264 in connection with a knight called Rudolf von Hagenwil. When the monastery was dissolved in 1806, it was purchased by its custodian Benedikt Angehrn and has remained in his family's ownership for 200 years. It boasts a restaurant and produces its own wine. Its rooms can be hired for special events.

2. Romont Castle
The small town of Romont in the Canton of Fribourg has a varied history, caught amid the conflicting interests of Burgundy, Savoy, Vaud and Berne. It is built on a hill, the highest point of which is home to the castle bearing the same name, constructed by Peter of Savoy in the 13th century. The circular wall and round keep still survive from this period. A 4.5 metre-wide well treadwheel from 1772 can be found in the inner courtyard. Today, the castle is home to the Swiss Museum of Stained Glass.

The Swiss Pro Patria foundation raises funds to support cultural and social projects throughout Switzerland through the sale of stamps with a surcharge. This year's Pro Patria stamps are part of the "Fortresses and castles of Switzerland" series (2016–2018). As well as the first-day cover, a stamp booklet is also available. **propatria.ch**

Pro Patria 2018
Burgen und Schlösser der Schweiz
Forteresses et châteaux de Suisse
Fortezze e castelli della Svizzera
PRO PATRIA 17.5.2018 3000 BERN

Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 9.5.2018 to 31.12.2018 Branches: from 17.5.2018 while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 17.5.2018
Printing	Offset, 5-colour and gold (Pantone); Cartor Security Printing, La Loupe, France
Sizes	Stamps: 33×28 mm Sheet: 194×140 mm (4 rows of 5 stamps)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13¼:13½
Design	Angelo Boog, Wallisellen

Stamp booklet

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A208 150	A208 550	2.75
Set of blocks of four	A208 160	A208 560	11.00
Sheet with 20 stamps 0.85+0.40 Hagenwil Water Castle 1.00+0.50 Romont Castle	 A208 111 A208 112	 A208 511 A208 512	 25.00 30.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A208 580	3.65
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A208 600	4.55
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A208 630	12.80
Unstamped cover C6	A208 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A208 640	A208 650	3.55
Stamp booklets			
4 stamps at CHF 0.85+0.40 with "Hagenwil Water Castle" motif and 6 stamps at CHF 1.00+0.50 with "Romont Castle" motif	A208 300	A208 800	14.00

Postal card

50 years Stockhorn Railway

The Stockhorn Railway has been transporting passengers from Erlenbach in the Simmental to the mountain station at an altitude of 2,139 metres for 50 years. From here, visitors can reach the impressive summit, which sits at 2,190 metres. But this is not the mountain's only attraction: it also offers numerous hiking trails for all levels.

The first section of the cable car from Erlenbach to Chrindi came into operation on 27 July 1968. The second section – from the middle station at Chrindi to the summit – followed in 1969. The Stockhorn Railway is one of 128 aerial tramways in Switzerland. In this system, two cars shuttle between the valley and mountain stations. To mark the railway's 50th anniversary, Swiss Post is issuing a postal card. Illustrated by Thun-based designer Tony Frank, the postal card invites viewers to dream of an idyllic mountain landscape. Not far from the summit of the Stockhorn, two small mountain lakes can be found – a popular destination for amateur fishing enthusiasts. The area also offers numerous hiking trails for all levels, a number of climbing parks and an extensive cave system that is well worth exploring. Another major attraction is the 70-metre-long tunnel with wheelchair access which leads to a panoramic viewing platform. From this point, visitors can enjoy spectacular views over Lake Thun, the Swiss plateau and, on clear days, as far as the Jura, the Vosges and the Black Forest.

Postmark and stamp on the postal card

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Postal stationery			
Postal card "50 years Stockhorn Railway", face value CHF 1.00 + 1.00 for the card	A212 841	A212 846	2.00

Postal card, front side

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 9.5.2018 to 30.6.2019 Branches: not on sale While stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 17.5.2018
Printing	Offset, 5-colour; Mastra Druck AG, 3322 Urtenen-Schönbühl
Sizes	Card: 148×105 mm Stamps: 33×28 mm
Paper	Offset cardboard white, 235 gm²
Design	Tony Frank, Thun

Colourful stamps

Issue set with single stamps 2/2018

Issue set with first-day covers (FDC) 2/2018

Annual and special products	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Issue set with single stamps 2/2018			
The single stamps and sets in the 2/2018 issue are displayed on a free A5 backing card and protected with cellophane wrapping	A213 150	A213 550	13.95
Issue set with first-day covers (FDC) 2/2018			
The first-day covers with single stamps and sets in the 2/2018 issue are combined in one free cover		A213 580	21.15
2017 year book			
Representing a valuable record of our times, the year book presents all Swiss stamps and first-day cancellations for 2017, along with an exclusive black print, on over 100 pages in four languages (de/fr/it/en)	A180 830	A180 831	69.00
2017 year set			
All Swiss stamps for 2017, clearly laid out on four handy display cards with transparent protective sleeve	A179 320	A179 820	60.25
2017 year set with first-day covers (FDC)			
All 28 first-day covers for 2017 – including the single stamps, sets or miniature sheets with the respective first-day cancellations		A179 530	85.85

2018 stamp catalogues	Art. no.	Price in CHF
Zumstein		
Switzerland/Liechtenstein/UN Geneva 2018, German/French	A168 725	35.00
Swiss stamp catalogue		
Switzerland/Liechtenstein/UN Geneva 2018, German/French	A168 787	37.00
The stamp catalogues can be delivered in Switzerland and Liechtenstein only		

Collector starter set (German)	Art. no.	Price in CHF
Everything you need for stamp collecting packed in a yellow rucksack (41×33cm): collection poster with instructions on how to collect stamps (A3), display cards, drying book, magnifying glass, tweezers, perforation gauge, used stamps for soaking off, stamp catalogue and information about subscribing.	1558 901	29.00
The Stamp collector starter set can be delivered in Switzerland and Liechtenstein only.		

Official Swiss commemorative coin 2018

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- ✓ An ideal gift or for collecting
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